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SECRET

(When Filled In)

NPIC REGISTRY

FILE INFO

PRIORITY

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APR 16 4 25 PM '73

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C O N F I D E N T I A L 162059Z APR 73

CITE NPIC 4710

TO: PRIORITY

DIRECTOR

25X1A

THIS IS FROM

1. ANALYSIS OF

REVEALS A NEWLY IDENTIFIED SEGMENT OF PETROLEUM PIPELINE (PPL) IN THE LAOTIAN PANHANDLE. THE OBSERVED PORTION OF THE PPL HAS AN EAST-WEST ALIGNMENT AND PARALLELS ROUTE 966 IN THE VICINITY OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE BORDER.

2. PORTIONS OF THE APPROXIMATE 3 MILE SEGMENT OF PPL WERE OBSERVED INTERMITTENTLY BETWEEN THE LIMITS OF INTERPRETABLE PHOTOGRAPHY. SOME OF THE PPL IS BURIED AND OTHER PORTIONS ARE IN AN OPEN TRENCH. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO LOCATE COMPARATIVE COVERAGE OF THIS AREA, HOWEVER, THE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY APPEARS RECENT.

3. THE PPL FORKS AT THE TWO FORKS CAN BE FOLLOWED A SHORT DISTANCE TO THE EASTERN LIMIT OF PHOTO COVERAGE.

4. A PIPELINE SPUR EXTENDS FROM THE PPL, CROSSES ROUTE 966 AND EXTENDS TO A PUMPHOUSE AND PROBABLE REFUELING STATION LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE ROAD AT THE SPUR PIPELINE POSSIBLY CONTINUES A SHORT DISTANCE BEYOND THE PUMPHOUSE INTO SOME NEARBY TREES.

5. UNABLE TO DETERMINE FROM AVAILABLE PHOTO COVERAGE IF THIS PPL CONNECTS WITH MAJOR NORTH-SOUTH PPL EXTENDING FROM NORTH VIETNAM INTO LAOTIAN PANHANDLE. SUGGEST UDORN PASS INFO ON PPL TO 432 RTS AND QUERY POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING ADDITIONAL LOW-LEVEL PHOTO COVERAGE TO DETERMINE EXTENT OF THIS PIPELINE.

6. REFERENCES:

A.

B. MAP: AMS SERIES L7014 SHEET 6539 IV
AMS SERIES L7015 SHEET 6439 I

E-2 IMPDET WN-SISM

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